

What is claimed is:

1. An elastomeric coupling for a rotating shaft comprising:

a driving yoke;

a driven yoke;

5 an elastomeric body having first and second sets of bushings within said elastomeric body, each of said bushing having a threaded opening;

a plurality of fasteners securing said driving yoke to said first set of bushings and securing said driven yoke to said second set of bushings; and

10 a plurality of tensile members within said elastomeric body, said tensile members connecting said first set of bushings to said second set of bushings.

2. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 1 where said tensile members are comprised of metal fibers.

15 3. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 1 where said tensile members are comprised of organic fibers.

4. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 1 where said first set of bushings has three bushings and said second set of bushings has three bushings, said  
20 bushings from each set being spaced equally about said elastomeric body, with the bushings from the first set alternating circumferentially with bushings from the second set.

5. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 4 where said driving yoke  
25 and said driven yoke each include a yoke with three equally spaced arms.

6. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 4 wherein said elastomeric body has sufficient flexibility to enable rotation of said elastomeric body about a

central axis with said bushings from said first set of bushings rotating in one plane and said bushings in said second set of bushings rotating in a different plane.

7. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 1 wherein said first and  
5 second sets of bushings contain grooves in to secure said tensile members while allowing said tensile members to shift within said grooves.

8. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 1 wherein said elastomeric  
body has a hollowed central portion.  
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9. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 1 wherein each of said tensile members is wrapped around one of said bushings from said first set of bushings and also wrapped around one of said bushings from said second set of bushings.

10. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 1 wherein each of said  
15 bushings includes a substantially circular elastomeric body having bushing mounting portions alternating with connecting web portions, with said connecting web portions being more flexible than said bushing mounting portions.

11. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 1 wherein each of said  
20 bushings includes a substantially circular elastomeric body having bushing mounting portions alternating with connecting web portions, with said connecting web portions being thinner than said bushing mounting portions.

12. The elastomeric coupling defined in Claim 1 wherein each of said  
25 bushings includes a substantially circular elastomeric body having bushing mounting portions alternating with connecting web portions, with said connecting web portions having a radially inward curved shape.

13. An elastomeric body suitable for use in an elastomeric coupling for a rotating shaft, the elastomeric body being substantially circular, and having a circumferential face and first and second sets of bushings within said elastomeric body, said bushings having threaded openings exposed at said circumferential face, the elastomeric body having sufficient flexibility to enable rotation of the elastomeric body about a central axis with said bushings from said first set of bushings rotating in one plane and said bushings in said second set of bushings rotating in a different plane.

14. The elastomeric body defined in Claim 13 wherein said first set of bushings has three bushings and said second set of bushings has three bushings, said bushings from each set being spaced equally and alternating about said elastomeric body, with the bushings from the first set alternating circumferentially with bushings from the second set.

15. The elastomeric body defined in Claim 13 including a plurality of tensile members within said elastomeric body that connect said first set of bushings to said second set of bushings.

16. The elastomeric body defined in Claim 15 wherein said first and second sets of bushings contain grooves in said bushings to secure said tensile members while allowing said tensile members to shift within said grooves.

17. The elastomeric body defined in Claim 15 wherein each of said tensile members is wrapped around one of said bushings from said first set of bushings and also wrapped around one of said bushings from said second set of bushings.

18. The elastomeric body defined in Claim 13 wherein said substantially circular elastomeric body has bushing mounting portions alternating with connecting

web portions, with said connecting web portions being more flexible than said bushing mounting portions.

19. The elastomeric body defined in Claim 13 wherein said substantially  
5 circular elastomeric body has bushing mounting portions alternating with connecting web portions, with said connecting web portions being thinner than said bushing mounting portions.

20. The elastomeric body defined in Claim 13 wherein said substantially  
10 circular elastomeric body has bushing mounting portions alternating with connecting web portions, with said connecting web portions having a radially inward curved shape.